

Family Risk Assessment Guidance

When abuse occurred or is alleged in an **out-of-home setting** and child protective concerns do not exist in the child’s household, do not complete the safety assessment or risk assessment.

- **Out-of-home setting:** childcare centers, child development homes, foster family homes, group care facilities, hospitals, nursing care facilities, ICFs/ID, PMIDs, state-operated facilities, and substance abuse facilities. A noncustodial parent’s home is NOT an out-of-home setting. A nonregistered childcare home is NOT considered an out-of-home setting.

Only one **household** can be assessed on the risk assessment form. Assess the child’s primary residence. When the alleged perpetrator resides in the **household** of the noncustodial parent, assess the **household** of the noncustodial parent.

On items involving **caregivers**, select one or two parents or substitutes based on physical and emotional proximity to the children. Do not rate more than two caregivers in a home. Only one **primary caregiver** can be identified. A **secondary caregiver** should be identified even if they have minimal responsibility for care of the child.

- **Household:** Where the alleged abuse occurred.
- **Caregivers:** This includes the primary caregiver **and** other adults in the household where abuse occurred who also provides care of the children even if they do so minimally.
- **Primary caregiver:** Adult in the household where abuse occurred who provides the most care of the children. When in doubt who provides the most care, then determine who has custody. If both caregivers have custody, determine who the alleged perpetrator is. If both are the alleged perpetrators, decide which caregiver has the more severe behavior.
- **Secondary caregiver:** Adult living in the household when abuse occurred who has routine responsibility for childcare, but less responsibility than the primary caregiver.

The risk factors identified should be addressed in the appropriate domains of the assessment.

| Neglect | |
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| N1 Child Well-Being OR Family Safety | Is the current allegation neglect? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neglect refers to all subcategories of Denial of Critical Care, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to provide adequate food and nutrition • Failure to provide adequate shelter • Failure to provide adequate clothing • Failure to provide adequate health care • Failure to provide adequate mental health care • Gross failure to meet emotional needs • Failure to provide proper supervision • Failure to respond to the infant’s life-threatening condition |

Neglect

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| <p>N2 Family Safety</p> | <p>Are there any prior assessments of neglect?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neglect refers to all subcategories of Denial of Critical Care (see N1) ▪ Exclude prior assessments in out-of-home settings ▪ Check “a” if no prior assessments of neglect ▪ Check “b” if one or more prior assessments of neglect (including FAs and not confirmed) ▪ Check “c” if one prior assessment of neglect was confirmed or founded ▪ Check “d” if two or more prior assessments of neglect were confirmed or founded |
| <p>N3 Family Safety</p> | <p>Has the household previously received HHS Child Welfare Services (voluntary or court ordered) or is currently receiving HHS Child Welfare Services due to a prior assessment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do not include delinquency services or assessments that did NOT result in an open HHS Child Welfare Service case ▪ Do not include assessments that had Safety Plan Services only or an assessment that was referred to non-agency services ▪ Check “a” if no ▪ Check “b” if household has previously received HHS Child Welfare Services or is currently receiving HHS Child Welfare Services due to a prior assessment ▪ Check “c” if any child has previously been removed from the household |
| <p>N4 Child Well-Being OR Home Environment</p> | <p>What is the number of children in the household under the age of 18 years?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include all children under a shared custody agreement (who reside or visit the household, including any children of other household members) ▪ Exclude any deceased child (even if they are a child victim) |
| <p>N5 Child Well-Being</p> | <p>What is the current age of the youngest child in the household?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If the child is removed because of the current assessment, count the child as residing in the home ▪ Exclude any deceased child (even if they were the youngest child in the household) |
| <p>N6 Parent Capabilities</p> | <p>What is the number of prior assessments that were assigned for ANY type of allegation (abuse, neglect, or other) on any member in the household?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include FAs and CINA assessments ▪ Include founded, confirmed, and not confirmed ▪ Include any person in the household ▪ Include other state/county jurisdictions ▪ Exclude prior assessments in out-of-home settings ▪ Check “a” if no prior assessments ▪ Check “b” if one prior assessment ▪ Check “c” if two or more prior assessments |

Neglect

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| N7 Parent Capabilities | <p>What is the age of the primary caregiver?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See definition of primary caregiver at the top of the form |
| N8 Parent Capabilities | <p>Does the primary caregiver have a current substance use problem that interferes with the caregiver's or the family's functioning?</p> <p>Such interference is evidenced by usage that affects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment Criminal involvement Marital or family relationships Ability to provide protection, supervision, and care for the child Other indicators include positive drug screens, self-report of a problem, treatment or refusal of treatment, DUI in the past 2 years, refusing breathalyzer testing, health or medical problems resulting from substance use, or a child diagnosed with a FAS or drug-affected |
| N9 Child Well-Being | <p>Does a child in the household show mental health or behavioral problems not related to a physical or developmental disability?</p> <p>Some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular visits to a therapist Attendance in a special classroom for behavioral problems Prescriptions for psychoactive medication |
| N10 Family Safety | <p>Is there any recent or history of domestic violence which has involved any of the caregivers in the home?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include any caregiver in the home who was at any time a victim or a perpetrator of domestic violence "Domestic violence" includes any physical assault, pattern of verbal harassment or threats, or intimidation Include only domestic violence between caregivers or between a caregiver and another adult household member Do not include parent-child or child-child violence |
| N11 Home Environment | <p>Have any of the caregivers had multiple periods of homelessness at any time in the past?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homelessness includes past or current homelessness of any caregiver at any time Includes moving from one family member's house to another, which results in not having a permanent residence |

Abuse

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| <p>A1 Family Safety</p> | <p>What is the number of prior assessments that were assigned for ANY type of allegation (abuse, neglect, or other) on any members in the household?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include FAs and CINA assessments ▪ Include founded, confirmed, and not confirmed ▪ Include any person in the household ▪ Include other state/county jurisdictions ▪ Exclude prior assessments in out-of-home settings |
| <p>A2 Family Safety</p> | <p>Has the household previously received HHS Child Welfare Services (voluntary or court ordered) or is currently receiving HHS Child Welfare Services due to a prior assessment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do not include delinquency service or assessments that did NOT result in an open HHS Child Welfare Service case ▪ Do not include assessments that had Safety Plan Services only or an assessment that was referred to non-agency services |
| <p>A3 Parent Capabilities</p> | <p>Are there credible statements by the primary caregiver or others who indicate that the primary caregiver was maltreated as a child?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maltreatment includes neglect or physical, sexual, or other abuse |
| <p>A4 Parent Capabilities</p> | <p>Are there credible statements by the primary caregiver or others who indicate that the primary caregiver was placed in protective services as a child?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Was the primary caregiver placed out of the home? |
| <p>A5 Parent Capabilities</p> | <p>Do the caregivers provide supervision inconsistent with a child's need, which could potentially threaten a child's well-being or result in harm to the child?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Examples: Leaving a younger, vulnerable child alone, or leaving any child younger than mid-adolescence alone overnight |
| <p>A6 Parent Capabilities OR Family Safety</p> | <p>Is the current allegation abuse?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abuse refers to all abuse categories except for Denial of Critical Care |
| <p>A7 Family Safety</p> | <p>Are the caregivers involved in disruptive or volatile adult relationships either with each other or with other adults in the household that have a negative impact on or disrupt family functioning?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include domestic violence ▪ Also include their inability to work together, cooperate, and problem solve which results in a negative impact on family functioning |

Abuse

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| A8 Child Well-Being | What are the characteristics of the children in the household? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Check “a” if none apply ▪ Check “b” if any child in the household has a mental health or behavioral problem not related to a physical or developmental disability (including ADHD/ADD). This could be indicated by DSM diagnosis, received mental health treatment, current prescription of psychoactive medication, attendance in a special classroom. ▪ Check “c” if any child has any significant physical handicap or disability. This does NOT include learning disabilities or ADHD/ADD. ▪ Check “d” if any child in the household has a mental health or behavioral problem AND physical disability. |
| A9 Parent Capabilities | Are there credible statements made by the caregivers or others who indicate either or both of the caregivers are receiving, have received or were recommended for mental health treatment in the past? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Check “a” if neither caregiver is receiving or has ever been recommended for or received mental health treatment in the past ▪ Check “b” if either caregiver is receiving or has ever been recommended for or received mental health treatment in the past ▪ Check “c” if both caregivers are either receiving, have been recommended, or have received mental health treatment in the past |
| A10 Parent Capabilities | Does the secondary caregiver have a substance use problem that interferes with the caregiver’s or family functioning? Such interference is evidenced by usage that affects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employment ▪ Criminal employment ▪ Marital or family relationships ▪ Ability to provide protection, supervision, and care for a child ▪ Other indicators include positive drug screens, self-report of a problem, treatment or refusal of treatment, DUI in the past 2 years, or refusing breathalyzer testing, health or medical problems resulting from substance use |
| A11 Parent Capabilities | Are there any prior assessments of abuse? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exclude neglect/DCC assessments ▪ Check “a” if no prior assessments of abuse ▪ Check “b” if prior assessments (other than sexual abuse) ▪ Check “c” if prior sexual abuse assessments ▪ Check “d” if both “b” and “c” apply |